

What is claimed is:

1. A lawn mower comprising:
  - a mower deck supported by a vehicle body;
  - 5 a blade drive shaft with a blade rotatably mounted inside the mower deck;
  - a grass clippings discharging section provided in a side end region of the mower deck;
  - 10 a blower unit including a cylindrical blower housing connected to the grass clippings discharging section, a vertical drive shaft having a shaft portion with vanes attached thereto inside the blower housing and a shaft portion extending upward through the blower housing, and a discharging sleeve projecting rearwardly along an outer tangent line of the blower housing;
  - 15 a grass collecting apparatus mounted rearwardly of the vehicle body;
  - a duct for allowing the discharging sleeve to communicate with the grass collecting apparatus;
  - a belt-type blade driving mechanism mounted above a top wall of
  - 20 the mower deck for driving the blade drive shaft; and
  - a belt-type blower driving mechanism for driving the vertical drive shaft of the blower unit by utilizing power transmitted from the belt-type blade driving mechanism, the blower driving mechanism including an intermediate vertical shaft disposed rearwardly of the blower housing, and
  - 25 a belt transmission unit for transmitting power from the blade drive shaft to the vertical drive shaft through the intermediate vertical shaft.
2. A lawn mower as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the intermediate vertical shaft is mounted in a corner area defined by an outer peripheral
- 30 wall of the blower housing and the discharging sleeve.

3. A lawn mower as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the belt transmission unit includes belt pulleys mounted on the blade drive shaft and the intermediate vertical shaft, a first belt wound around the pulleys,  
5 and a first tension clutch switchable between a disengaging position for breaking the power transmission ability of the first belt and an engaging position for maintaining the power transmission ability of the first belt.

4. A lawn mower as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the belt transmission unit includes belt pulleys mounted on the vertical drive shaft  
10 and the intermediate vertical shaft, a second belt wound around the pulleys, and a second tension clutch switchable between a disengaging position for breaking the power transmission ability of the second belt and an engaging position for maintaining the power transmission ability of the second belt.

15 5. A lawn mower as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the tension pulley of the first tension clutch and the tension pulley of the second tension clutch are displaceable about a common pivotal axis.

20